In response to the Office Action mailed on July 24, 1998, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following Amendment and Response.

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) In a computer system having a memory, a processor, and a network interface, a method comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming call signal on said network interface;

processing said incoming call signal to detect an intended recipient application using a listen string, said listen string containing an application signature; and

launching said intended recipient application using said application signature.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of processing said incoming call signal comprises the steps of:

parsing said incoming call signal to determine a signal type[;] and a signal port; and

determining said intended recipient application based on said signal type and said signal port.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of launching said intended recipient application comprises the steps of:

determining said intended recipient application based on [said] a signal type and [said] a signal port;

locating said intended recipient application using [an] said application signature; and

signaling a process manager to launch said intended recipient application.

4. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

loading a call processing module into said memory; and

initializing said call processing module to process calls using said network interface.

5. (Amended) The method of claim [2] 4, wherein said step of loading said call processing module into said memory comprises the steps of:

loading a call directing component;

loading a first conference component;

loading a first transport component; and

loading a first network component.

6. (Unchanged) The method of claim 5, wherein said step of initializing said call processing module comprises the steps of:

initializing said first network component to operate with said network interface;

initializing said call directing component to monitor for said incoming call signal;

initializing said first transport component to receive said incoming call signal; and

initializing said first conference component to transfer said incoming call signal.

7. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving an initialization message from said intended recipient application; and

removing said intended recipient application from an internal list if said initialization message does not correspond to an expected message.

SUB B3

8. (Amended) In a computer system having a memory, a processor, and a network interface, an apparatus comprising:

a call directing module;

a process manager coupled to said call directing module; and,

a conferencing component coupled to said network interface[;] and said call directing module;

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where said conferencing component containing a circuit for notifying said call directing module upon receipt of an incoming call and causing said call director to signal said process manager to activate a conferencing application based on a listen string and an application signature.